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NOTES

A TIMELY GIFT.—Mrs. Clarkson Cowl has made a timely gift to the Museum in memory of her brother, Arthur Hoppock Hearn, of an Old Time Melody by the late Francis D. Millet, a picture which has been lent to us since April, 1910. The gift was announced to the public on April 23rd and was reviewed by the press at that time. With A Cosy Corner given by Mr. George I. Seney in 1887, the Museum now owns two representative examples of the work of this much-loved painter in whose courageous death American art loses one of its most efficient and loyal adherents. B. B.

THE NIGHT MISSION, BY JEROME MYERS, has been purchased from the artist and is now on exhibition in the Room of Recent Accessions. It is a representation of

the custom of holding religious services in tents set up in vacant lots or open spaces in the tenement districts of New York. The centre of the picture is occupied by the tent with three sides open, and within it in strong light are earnest worshipers singing hymns, while round about are interested or merely curious people of various types, the idlers of a city street at night. Here are men and women out for a stroll, a little girl with her baby brother in charge, children intent on their own affairs, and an old woman

with a pail on her way to the saloon — the characteristic onlookers that any gathering attracts. Above the tent are shown the upper stories of dingy tenements, lit by the street lights, and beyond is the night sky.

The work is conceived with exceptional and praiseworthy impartiality without moralizing or affected sentiment. They are real persons who make up this picturesque scene. The condition of each has been appropriately shown, without that melodramatic element that mars many a picture of poor people or laborers.

Jerome Myers for several years has been showing New Yorkers the artistic possibilities of what is perhaps the unique part of the city's scenes. He has discovered these subjects for himself and treats them in his own way. It is

never the exciting moments of street life that move him — only the daily happenings, the usual things that all may see. Boys and girls playing in the square, the crowd at a recreation pier, an organ-grinder followed by a troop of dancing children, old people whom the night freshness lures to the park-bench or the wharf, a religious festival in Little Italy — these are his favorite themes and he renders them with loving sincerity and a profound appreciation of their significance.

B. B.



AN OLD TIME MELODY
BY FRANCIS DAVIS MILLET

RECENT LOANS OF SILVER — On the afternoon of Thursday, February 29th last, there was sold at the American Art Galleries by order of Messrs. Gedge, Fiske & Gedge of Hastings House, London, the exceedingly interesting and valuable collection of relics and souvenirs which belonged to General, the Marquis de Lafayette, inherited from him by the present Marquis Dumottier de Lafayette. The most interesting article sold was a silver case containing a map of the State of South Carolina made by John Wilson in 1822, which was presented by the Governor of South Carolina in the name of that state to General Lafayette on the occasion of his triumphal tour through the United States. The case, which was made by Louis Boudo, a noted goldsmith and silversmith of Charleston during the first quarter of the last century, is $9\frac{7}{8}$ inches long, $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide, and $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches deep. It is ornamented with braided bands, weighs forty-nine ounces, ten pennyweights, and contains the following inscription in the flowing script of the period:

Presented by
Richard J. Manning
Governor of South Carolina
in the name of the State
to
General Lafayette
whilst at Columbus in March, 1825.
In tracing your route through our territory every
inhabited spot will recall to your memory the
devotion and affection of a grateful people.
Signe: Ls. Boudo, fecit, Charleston,
So. Ca.

The case was bought by the Hon. A. T. Clearwater, who immediately was requested to present it to the State of South Carolina, to the Carolina Society of that state, and to the City of Charleston. Judge Clearwater however, decided to lend it to the Museum, and it is exhibited with a portion of his collection in Gallery D 9.

Judge Clearwater has also lent to the Museum an unusual communion flagon* made by I. W. Forbes, exhibited in

*This flagon is described in J. H. Buck, *Old Plate*, Ed. 2.

Gallery D 9. It is $13\frac{1}{4}$ inches high, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad at the base, weighs twenty-five ounces and fifteen pennyweights, and is decorated with ornamental bands of palmettes. It is marked I. W. Forbes, in rectangle, with an anchor, star, a head and C, all in ovals. It contains the following inscription:

Presented
by
Samuel Verplank, Esqr.
to the First Reformed
Dutch Church in the Town of
FISH KILL

To commemorate Mr. Eglebert Huff,
by birth a Norwegian, in his lifetime
attached to the life guard of the Prince
of Orange (Afterward King Wm. III of England)
He resided for a number of years
in this country.
Died with unblemished reputation
at Fishkill, 21 March, 1765.
Aged 128 years

Fishkill,
January
1820.

THE LECTURE HALL

IN an article recently published in the new *Architectural Quarterly* of Harvard University (March), Professor Wallace C. Sabine, Lecturer on Architectural Acoustics, publishes an article on the correction of acoustical difficulties, or such of them at least, as can be overcome without extensive alterations in the form of the building. In his own words, he discusses "medical rather than surgical methods."

We give in the following quotation what he says of the corrections made by him in the Lecture Hall of the Museum:

"The Lecture Room of The Metropolitan Museum of Art illustrates the next step in complexity. This hall is a semi-circular auditorium, with the semi-circle slightly continued by short, straight walls. As shown in the illustrations the platform is nearly, though not wholly, within a broad cut but shallow recess. The body of the auditorium is surmounted

by a spherical ceiling with short cylindrical extension following the straight side walls. In the centre of the ceiling is a flat skylight of glass. In this room the reverberation was not merely excessive, but it resolved itself by focussing into a multiple echo, the components of which followed each other with great rapidity but were distinctly separable. The number distinguishable varied in different parts of the hall. Seven were distinguishable at certain parts. A detailed discussion of this is not appropriate in the present paper as it concerns rather the subject of calculation in advance of construction. To improve the acoustics the ceiling was coffered, the limiting depth and dimensions of this coffering being determined in large measure by the dimensions of the skylight. The semi-circular wall at the rear of the auditorium was transformed into panels which were filled with felt over which was stretched burlap as shown in the second illustration. The result was the result assured—the reduction of the disturbance to a single and highly localized echo. This echo is audible only in the central seats—two or three seats at a time—and moves about as the speaker moves, but in symmetrically opposite direction. Despite this residual effect, and it should be noted that this residual effect was predicted, the result is highly satisfactory to Dr. Edward Robinson, the Director of the Museum, and the room is now used with comfort, whereas it had been for a year abandoned.”

THE LIBRARY—The additions to the Library during the past month were two hundred and ninety-nine volumes as follows: by purchase two hundred and eighty-eight; by gift eleven.

The names of the donors are Messrs. W. Baumgarten & Company, Mr. Martin Birnbaum, Mr. C. Brunner, Mr. John H. Buck, Mr. Sidney J. A. Churchill, Mr. Robert W. de Forest, Mr. Hans Fahrmbacher, Mrs. Dunlap Hopkins, Mr. F. G. Macomber, Miss F. Morris, and Mr. P. F. Schofield. Two photographs were presented by Mr. Edward D. Adams.

The attendance during the month was nine hundred and eighty-one.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS—The American Association of Museums will hold its seventh annual meeting in New York from June 4th to 7th. The following preliminary programme has been arranged:

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

- 9 A.M. At the American Museum of Natural History. Registration and distribution of badges.
- 10 A.M. Session for business and papers.
- 1.30 P.M. Luncheon, followed by inspection of the Museum during the afternoon.
- 8 P.M. At the American Museum of Natural History. Session for reading and discussion of papers.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

- 10 A.M. At the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Session for business and papers. It is desired to make this as largely as possible an art session.
- 1.30 P.M. Luncheon, followed by inspection of the Museum in the afternoon.
- 8 P.M. At the American Museum of Natural History. Session for reading and discussion of papers.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

- 10 A.M. At the Museum of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. Session for business and papers.
- 1.30 P.M. Luncheon, followed by inspection of the Museum and visit to the Children's Museum.
- 8 P.M. At the American Museum of Natural History. Session for reading and discussion of papers.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

- 10 A.M. Inspection of the New York Zoölogical Park.
- 1.30 P.M. Luncheon, followed by an inspection of the New York Botanical Garden.

OPENING OF RODIN COLLECTION—The Collection of Sculptures by Rodin which was opened on the second of last month was the occasion of an interesting visit from members of the French Committee to the Champlain Tercentenary Celebration who came to this country to bring the relief of La France, by Rodin, which

BULLETIN OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

was destined to a place in the monument erected at Crown Point. The distinguished guests were received by Mr. Joseph H. Choate, Mr. Robert W. de Forest, Mr. Daniel C. French, and Mr. William Church Osborn of the Trustees.

A speech of welcome was made by Mr. Choate and was responded to by M. Gabriel Hanotaux. The following cablegrams were exchanged with M. Rodin.

May 2, 1912.

À MONSIEUR RODIN:

Le Comité délégué à la célébration du ter-centenaire de Champlain a assisté des ad-

ministrateurs, du Musée à l'ouverture de l'exposition de votre oeuvre. — Saluts, amitié, admiration.

G. HANOTAUX
D'ESTOURNELLES DE CONSTANT
JARAY
CHOISEUL
CHOATE
ROBERT W. DE FOREST

May 5, 1912.

ROBERT DE FOREST,

Metropolitan Museum, N. Y.

Profondément touché de l'honneur que les administrateurs du Metropolitan Museum m'ont fait Messieurs Joseph Choate, Robert de Forest assistés de la Délégation Française en remerçiments et saluts d'amitié.

AUGUSTE RODIN



THE RODIN GALLERY